

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
TOPIC	Exercises of the 12th Tank Div. in the Wittstock area		
			25X1
EVALUATION	PLACE OBTAINED		
DATE OF CONTENT			
DATE OBTAINED	DATE PREPARED	19 August 1955	25X1
REFERENCES			
PAGES	2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	25X1
REMARKS			
25X1			
This is UNEVALUATED Information			

1. On 21 July 1955, a colonel made a speech in front of a quartering building of Unit Dronov in the Fridericus Kaserne (2205) in Neuruppin. On 22 July, the largest part of the quarters of Unit Dronov was vacant. Fresh imprints of track-laying vehicles led toward Altruppin. The unit presumably left for an exercise during the preceding night. Most of the tank sheds were empty. 25X1
2. Between 21 and 23 July, the Neuruppin post appeared to be only lightly occupied. Only a few officers and all dependents were observed at the officer billets. 25X1
3. Only little activity was observed in the quarters of the headquarter in the former post hospital (2202) in Neuruppin.
4. On 22 July, there was only little activity in the Fridericus Kaserne. The sheds were closed and no tanks were seen. The installation was lightly occupied by guard details. Lieutenant Colonel Buikovski was allegedly at Camp Schweinrich. At 0820 fresh imprints of tank tracks led from the Fridericus Kaserne toward Altruppin.
5. On 21 July, little activity was observed in the Friedrich Franz Kaserne (2201) in Neuruppin. No weapons were seen. Most of the sheds were open and empty.
6. On 23 July, only sentries were observed in the See Kaserne (2203) in Neuruppin. No weapons were seen. It was learned that the engineer unit left during the night of 21/22 July. All was quiet at the tank training area of Genthzrode.
7. Between 1800 on 24 July and 2000 on 29 July, tank firing practices were held in the Schweinrich section of the Wittstock training grounds at day and night. All roads to the training grounds were blocked and guarded by double sentries.¹ Camp Schweinrich was still being dismantled. Trucks with trailers, which carried barracks sections, continually went toward Neuruppin.²

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8. At about 0400 on 16 July, 2 companies of soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets came from [redacted] in and proceeded to Jagen (forest section) 92 [redacted]. [redacted] 10, 16 trucks and 10 three-axle armored [redacted] soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets arrived from the direction of Neuruppin and spread from Jagen 92 as far as Basdorf. A telephone cable was laid from the direction of Rheinsberg to Jagen 135 at Neu Glienicke. It is assumed that a divisional exercise was held, with assembly areas between Frankendorf and Schwanow.

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1. [redacted] Comment. The information tends to indicate that the bulk of the 12th Gds Tank Div. was stationed in the Schweinrich section of the Wittstock training grounds after 21/22 July. Major exercises including tank firing practices were apparently held there between 24 and 29 July. Units Buikovski and Dronov are identical with the 48th and 49th Gds Tank Regts of the division, respectively.

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2. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] barracks buildings of Camp Schweinrich were continually dismantled and shipped away after April 1955.

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3. [redacted] Comment. Although no heavy weapons were observed, it is possible that major elements of the 12th Gds Tank Div. conducted a 2-day exercise in the eastern portion of the Wittstock training grounds.

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